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# MASSACHUSETTS WILDLIFE

Vol. LIII

No. 2

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*When a sow and cubs unexpectedly approaches the deer stand, even a seasoned hunter can be forgiven for getting a little nervous ...*

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*Familiar but ever mysterious, our two species of small wild canids display an extraordinary variety of interesting behaviors and abilities ...*

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*Keeping geese — or more specifically, their messy droppings — off the athletic fields proved a frustrating endeavor until a few coyotes were employed ...*

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**On the Cover:** An adult male gray fox personifies the beauty and secretiveness for which this common native predator is known. To get this photo, Bill Byrne set up his blind about 70 feet from an active den on a rural farm. The foxes were always aware of his presence, and the male in particular frequently circled and occasionally barked at the blind. The animals put up with the attention for a week, then relocated to a more secluded site. The shot was taken at about 20 feet with a 500 mm lens and Fuji Provia 100F film.

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